



BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF GEORGIA

A PROCLAMATION

TARLOV CYST DISEASE AWARENESS MONTH

- WHEREAS: Tarlov cysts, also known as perineural nerve root cysts, are fluid-filled sacs that most often affect nerve roots located at the base of the spine; and
- WHEREAS: An estimated 4 to 9 percent of adults are affected by Tarlov cysts, and women are more likely to be affected than men. Approximately 1 to 5 percent of those with Tarlov cysts display symptoms, which are usually described as radicular pain or neurologic dysfunction; and
- WHEREAS: Tarlov cysts may cause varying levels of pain depending on the cyst location and associated nerve distribution. Other symptoms include muscle weakness, loss of reflexes, and headaches; and
- WHEREAS: The pain associated with Tarlov cysts may mimic other conditions such as sciatica, disc degeneration, or diseases known to cause nerve root impingement. This pain may be described as "sitting on rocks" or as a burning pain that radiates down one or both legs or arms along with some loss of feeling; and
- WHEREAS: There is no cure for Tarlov cysts. However, several treatment options including medication, nerve stimulation, and surgery may minimize the symptoms of the condition; and
- WHEREAS: Sacral laminectomy and cyst aspiration with fibrin sealant injection are the most common surgical procedures for the treatment of Tarlov cysts; and
- WHEREAS: Patients presenting progressive and prolonged symptoms of Tarlov cysts are at greater risk of neurological damage; and
- WHEREAS: Further research, improved treatment options, and greater public awareness of Tarlov cysts are all necessary to enhance the quality of life of those affected; now
- THEREFORE: I, NATHAN DEAL, Governor of the State of Georgia, do hereby proclaim March 2018 as TARLOV CYST DISEASE AWARENESS MONTH in Georgia.

In witness thereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the Executive Department to be affixed this 1st day of March in the year of our Lord two thousand eighteen.



Nathan Deal

GOVERNOR

ATTEST

Chris W. Riley

CHIEF OF STAFF